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JOURNAL SENTINEL

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‘Thank you’

Kidney donation gave Kenosha man 47 years

Nathan Phelps Green Bay Press-Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

KENOSHA – A kidney from a 14-year-old girl helped Frank Germinaro raise a family, pursue a career and live his life.

It was March of 1970 when Germinaro underwent the transplant at Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin due to a childhood bladder ailment that caused his kidneys to fail as a teenager. The kidney was donated by a girl who had died from a brain tumor. Most donated kidneys last about 10 years. This one would serve Germinaro — would in a real way make his life possible — for 47 years.

“It didn’t start up right away,” Germinaro said about the function of the kid-

See GERMINARO, Page 12A

Frank Germinaro and his wife, Janet, look over memory books of his first kidney transplant in 1970. By 2016, he was in need of another transplant and his daughter stepped in for the donation. The April 2017 operation was successful and Frank says he continues to live a good life. RICK WOOD/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

JOURNAL SENTINEL WATCHDOG REPORT

Engineer Tim Myers checks out a wetland sedge meadow in May 2014 near state Highway 77, one of the locations that was being inventoried in an area of Iron and Ashland counties as part of the state Department of Natural Resources’ request for information from Gogebic Taconite. Gogebic was seeking permission to construct a $1.5 billion open pit iron ore mine in northern Wisconsin but pulled out of the project in 2015.
RICK WOOD / MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

Changing priorities

Walker, GOP capitalized on their rural support to create policies to make state DNR better for business

Lee Bergquist Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

SECOND OF TWO PARTS

In October 2010, about two weeks before his election victory over Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, Scott Walker vowed to change what he saw as Wisconsin’s heavy-handed approach on environmental issues.

“The DNR is out of control and we have to get a handle on that,” Walker said during a debate at Marquette University.

Walker, as a newly elected governor, tapped Cathy Stepp, a former home builder and former Republican state senator from Racine County, to run the state Department of Natural Resources and steer it in a direction that was seen as more business friendly.

The appointment was one of Walker’s first efforts to shift environmental policy in ways that encouraged economic growth and — in the eyes of the new administration — continued to protect state natural resources.

> **“I think that you can be good for the environment and good for the economy at the same time.”**
> **Gov. Scott Walker**

Stepp announced on Aug. 29 she was leaving the DNR to join the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under President Donald Trump. Walker has named Dan Meyer, a former Republican member of the Assembly

See WALKER, Page 10A

Common Ground, Children’s health plans set to grow

They project at least 70,000 people will join

Guy Boulton Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

Common Ground Healthcare Cooperative and Children’s Community Health Plan are on their way to becoming much bigger players in the health insurance marketplaces set up by the Affordable Care Act.

Children’s Community Health Plan, which covered 2,900 people in November, projects that 20,000 to 30,000 people in the six southeast Wisconsin counties where it operates will sign up for its plans in the current open-enrollment period for coverage that starts Jan. 1.

And Common Ground Healthcare Cooperative, which now covers about 30,000 people in eastern Wisconsin,

See INSURANCE, Page 6A

STEELERS 31, PACKERS 28

Packers quarterback Brett Hundley and wide receiver Randall Cobb celebrate after combining for a touchdown against the Pittsburgh Steelers on Sunday night. Coverage in Sports and at jsonline.com/sports.
CHARLES LECLAIRE / USA TODAY SPORTS

Local
Milwaukee named ‘America’s Best City To Find Love.’ **2A**

State
Glut of Democrats run for governor in unusually crowded field. **3A**

Weather
High 51° Low 35°
Partly cloudy. **4C**

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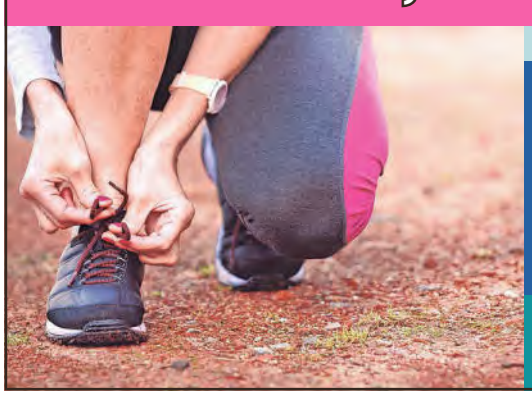

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